

Message Text

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64

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CU-04 SIL-01

LAB-06 AGR-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03

USIA-12 PRS-01 /111 R

DRAFTED BY AF/ C: HJCOHEN: OSM

4-16-73 X22080

APPROVED BY AF/ C: HJCOHEN

AF/ PPS- DMACK

S/ PC: DCUTHELL

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R 172103 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

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E/O: 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, XJ, US

SUBJECT: SECRETARY' S FOREIGN POLICY REPORT

1. TEXT OF SECTION ON INDIAN OCEAN IN SECRETARY' S
1972 FOREIGN POLICY REPORT SCHEDULED FOR RELEASE APRIL 19
FOLLOWS IN FULL (UNNECESSARY WORDS OMITTED):

2. " INDIAN OCEAN

THE INDIAN OCEAN STATES OF MALAGASY AND MAURITIUS
UNDERWENT PERIODS OF INTENSE POLITICAL FERMENT IN 1972.

IN MALAGASY CAPITAL OF TANANARIVE IN MAY,
DEMONSTRATIONS BY STUDENTS, INTELLECTUALS, AND WORKERS
SPARKED A GENERAL MOVEMENT TO REPLACE A REGIME THAT HAD
NOT RESPONDED TO POPULAR DEMANDS FOR ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND
CULTURAL REFORM. MALAGASY ARMY WAS ASKED TO ASSUME POWER
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AND IN A SUBSEQUENT REFERENDUM WON A MANDATE TO REMAIN IN OFFICE FOR 5 YEARS IN ORDER TO REFORM THE COUNTRY' S INSTITUTIONS.

IN MAURITIUS AN OFFICIAL STATE OF EMERGENCY CONTINUED TO GIVE THE GOVT THE POWER TO COPE WITH POLITICAL AND LABOR UNREST GENERATED BY THE COUNTRY' S DIFFICULT PROBLEM OF HEAVY UNEMPLOYMENT. WITH ASSISTANCE OF IBRD, THE UK

AND OTHER AID DONORS, EFFORTS ARE NOW UNDERWAY TO SEEK BOTH SHORT- AND LONG- TERM SOLUTIONS TO THIS CHRONIC PROBLEM.

US RELATIONS WITH BOTH MALAGASY AND MAURITIUS REMAINED UNDISTURBED. A TEMPORARY CLOUD OVEI US- MALAGASY RELATIONS WAS LIFTED IN APRIL WHEN THE THEN MALAGASY PRESIDENT MADE A PUBLIC STATEMENT RETRACTING EARLIER UNFOUNDED ALLEGATIONS THAT THE US EMBASSY HAD COLLABORATED WITH MALAGASY POLITICIANS IN SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES. IN MAURITIUS, US SUGAR PURCHASES AND ASSISTANCE TO THE ' WORK FOR ALL" PROGRAM CONTINUED TO AID THE MAURITIAN GOVT' S OWN DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS.'

DECONTROL APRIL 20, 1973. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE071675
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: HJCOHEN: OSM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730446/aaaaisdc.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <22 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980123
Subject: SECRETARY'S FOREIGN POLICY REPORT
TAGS: PFOR, US, XJ
To: PORT LOUIS
TANANARIVE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005